

FY13 State Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

For Audio please dial: 888-858-2144

Pass code: 8002187

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Proposal Due date

Proposals must be submitted in grants.gov or received in the NRCS Oregon State Office by 4:00 p.m., Pacific Standard Time (PST) on Friday, May 17, 2013.

USDA-NRCS

Conservation Innovation Grants

1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 900,

Portland Oregon 97232.

Funding Opportunity

The fiscal year 2013 Announcement for Program Funding (APF) for The State CIG was published on March 25, 2013.

The APF is available at:

www.grants.gov and

http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/cig-2013/2013_Oregon_CIG.html

CIG Description

CIG was authorized as part of Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) under the Food Security Act of 1985, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 and the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

CIIG Purpose

CIIG is a voluntary program intended to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production.

CIG Eligibility

Under CIG, EQIP funds are used to award competitive grants to:

- non-federal governmental
- non-governmental organizations
- federally-recognized Indian tribes
- individuals

CIG Eligibility

Applications are accepted from all 50 States, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Islands Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). However, projects must be in Oregon.

CIG Project Eligibility

- To be eligible for CIG, projects must involve producers who meet the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) eligibility requirements.
- Participating producers are not required to have an EQIP contract.

Eligibility information:

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/fy13/Eligibility13.html>

CIG Project Eligibility

Technologies and approaches that are eligible for funding in a project's geographic area through EQIP are ineligible for CIG funding except where the use of those technologies and approaches demonstrates clear innovation.

State CIG Matching Funds

The amount available to support the State CIG program in FY 2013 will be approximately \$139,000.

The maximum federal match requested for any project will not exceed \$75,000. CIG will fund single- and multi-year projects, not to exceed 3 years.

State CIG Matching Funds

Matching Funds

Applicants must provide non-Federal funding (matching funds) for at least 50 percent of the total project cost.

At least half of the applicants matching funds (up to 25 percent of the total project cost) must come from cash contributions.

Matching Funds (Example)

Total Project Cost: \$150,000

- CIG Contribution: \$75,000

- Applicant's Contribution: \$75,000

 - ✓ Cash: \$37,500

 - ✓ In-kind: \$37,500

State CIG Matching Funds

An exception regarding matching funds is made for applicants or participants that are Beginning Farmers or Ranchers, Limited Resource Farmer, or Socially Disadvantaged Farmers or Ranchers, or community-based organizations comprised of or representing these entities.

Up to three-fourths of the required matching funds for such projects (up to 37.5 percent of the total project cost) may derive from in-kind contributions.

Matching Funds (Example for Beginning or Limited Farmers or Ranchers)

Total Project Cost: \$150,000

- CIG Contribution: \$75,000

- Applicant's Contribution: \$75,000

- ✓ Cash: \$18,750
- ✓ In-kind: \$56,250

Matching funds

What are types of cash match?

In kind services?

Indirect cost?

EQIP Payment Limitation and Duplicate Payments

Section 1240G of the Food Security Act of 1985, 16 U.S.C. 3839aa-7, imposes a \$300,000 limitation for all cost-share or incentive payments disbursed to individuals or entities under an EQIP contract between fiscal years 2008 and 2012.

Note: The above provision applies to FY13 with the extension of the Farm Bill

Questions



CIG State Component

The State Resource Category will only be offered for FY2013. with the following sub categories:

Energy

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Water Quality

Water Quantity

Plant health and Vigor

Soil Quality

Wildlife Habitat

iv. Water Quantity Subcategory

The objective of this natural resource concern is to implement new technologies, methods or market-based approaches to maintain, restore, or enhance water quantity resources associated with agricultural uses while sustaining productivity.

Possible subtopics include:

- User friendly technologies or innovations that utilize precision irrigation techniques on various agricultural crops that promotes irrigation efficiency, and improved management of irrigation water;
- **Implementation of automated and/or remotely-controlled irrigation technologies, including diversion head gates, pumping stations, control valves, and flow monitoring methods in order to control the application of irrigation water based on crop needs, irrigation cycles, soil moisture and precipitation;**
- **Development of an inventory/GIS tool that assesses irrigation district infrastructure, irrigation water delivery and usage, irrigation water delivery efficiencies, and parameters that can be used state-wide to compare and prioritize irrigation projects;**
- Innovative technologies that improve the water holding capacity of irrigated soils. Soil amendments or structures that decrease water loss due to evaporation, deep percolation below root zones, and surface runoff; or
- Development of an inventory of economically viable crop alternatives which require less water than those traditionally grown.

Priority Considerations

To be given priority consideration, the innovative project or activity:

- Has been studied sufficiently to indicate a good probability for success;
- Demonstrates, tests, evaluates, and verifies environmental (soil, water, air, plants, and animal) effectiveness, utility, affordability, and usability in the field;
- Adapts conservation technologies, practices, systems, procedures, approaches, and incentive systems to improve performance and encourage adoption;
- Introduces conservation systems, approaches, and procedures from another geographic area or agricultural sector;
- Adapts conservation technology, management, or incentive systems to improve performance.

Application Submission

Application forms can be obtained at:

www.grants.gov OR

http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/cig-2013/2013_Oregon_CIG.html

Application Submission

Application Package Checklist

SF 424a Application Cover Sheet

DUNS number and SAM Registration

SF424a Budget Information Non-Construction Programs

SF424B Assurances-Non Construction Programs

Executive summary (2 pages max.)

Project description (7 pages max.)

Detail budget narrative (4 pages max.)

Declaration of beginning farmer or rancher

Declaration of EQIP eligible producers

Budget Information

Other Item you should know.....

Unauthorized costs:

Patents and Inventions:

Regulation provides that small businesses and commercial organizations normally may retain the principal worldwide patent rights to any invention developed with USDA support.

USDA receives a royalty-free license for Federal Government use, reserves the right to require the patentee to license others in certain circumstances, and requires that anyone exclusively licensed to sell the invention in the United States must normally manufacture it domestically.

Questions



Project Description

- Project Background
- Project Objectives
- Project Methods
- Location and Size of Project or Project Area
- EQIP Eligible Participants
- Project Action Plan and Timeline
- Project Management
- Project Deliverables/Products
- Benefits and Transferability
- Project Evaluation
- Environmental and Social Impacts

Application - Submission

- Hard copies must be accompanied by a electronic copy and be received at the NRCS State office by 4:00PM (PST) on Friday May 17, 2013.
- Applications submitted via facsimile will not be accepted
- Electronically through www.grants.gov

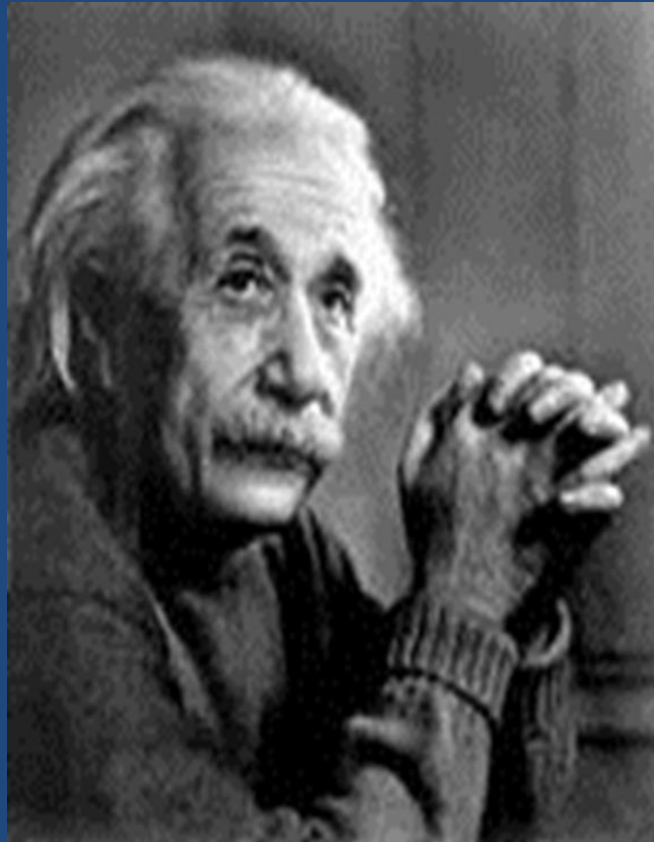
Review Process

- Screened for completeness and compliance with the requirements of the Announcement for Program Funding (APF).
- Basin Working Group (BWG), evaluation on a local level
- Technical Review Teams (TRT), evaluation on a technical level.
- Executive Review Board (ERB), Compliance and overall review of proposals and makes recommendations to the State Conservationist .
- Final selection made by the State Conservationist

Transferability

- Potential for NRCS Oregon to successfully use the innovative approach or methods.(technical standards, technical notes, guide sheets, handbooks, software, etc.)
- Potential for producers and land managers to use the innovative technology or methods
- Potential to transfer the approach or technology to other parts of Oregon.

Questions



Successful Applications

- ✓ Northwood's Nursery Multi-purpose Rainwater Harvesting System
- ✓ Climate Friendly Nurseries
- ✓ Metrics for Three Oregon Priority Habitats
- ✓ Integrating SWCD Farm Planning and Credit Calculation

To view projects funded by CIG go to:

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/index.html>

Unsuccessful Applications

- ✓ Research projects
- ✓ Does not involve EQIP eligible producers
- ✓ Technology is adopted through EQIP
- ✓ 50/50 or applicants cash match not met
- ✓ Workshops
- ✓ Infrastructure for new or established business
- ✓ Land acquisition
- ✓ Proposal already funded under the National CIG
- ✓ Incorporation of seed varieties
- ✓ Demonstration projects on lands owned by a federal agency

Proposals due
May 17, 2013 by 4:00PM

**USDA-NRCS
Conservation Innovation Grants
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 900,
Portland Oregon 97232.**

submit application electronically, visit
www.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp

For more information visit:
<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/index.html>

For additional information, please contact:

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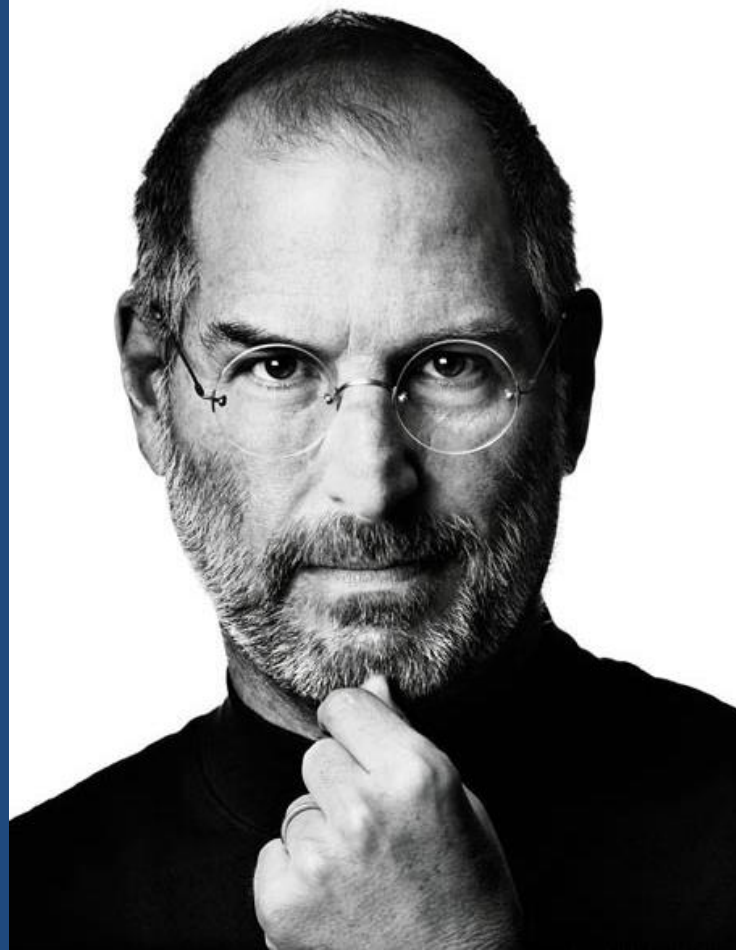
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Questions



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